

**SOUTHERN INDIANA FAMILY COURT PROJECT**  
**Serving Crawford, Martin, and Orange Counties**

**Basic Information**

**Crawford County:**

**Population** – 10, 743

**County Seat** – English

**Judicial Officers:** 1

**Project Implementation:** June 2006

**Crawford County Project Judge:** Honorable Kenneth L. Lopp

**Martin County:**

**Population** – 10,369

**County Seat** – Shoals

**Judicial Officers:** 1

**Project Implementation:** June 2006

**Martin County Project Judge:** Honorable R. Joseph Howell

**Orange County:**

**Population** – 19, 306

**County Seat** – Paoli

**Judicial Officers:** 2

**Project Implementation:** June 2006

**Orange County Project Judges:** Honorable Larry R. Blanton (Circuit Court)  
Honorable R. Michael Cloud (Superior Court)

**Contact Persons:**

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**Funding for All Three Counties:**

Family Court Project Funding  
2007 - Grant \$38,000

**Family Court Mission Statement:**

The goal of the Southern Indiana Family Court Project is to provide a constructive process by which families can develop and maintain positive conflict resolution skills so they are empowered to make positive decisions for their family in the future. The program assists families in developing conflict resolution skills, co-parenting plans, and provide individual and community resources designed to maintain positive familial relationships. The program encourages the exploration of family-focused processes in CHINS, Delinquency, and/or Termination cases. Highly litigious families are offered opportunities to develop conflict resolution skills so litigation is minimized. At-risk families will be identified and services will be provided to families, regardless of income, to assist in developing the skills and providing the services needed to develop a more positive family structure and maintain the family integrity. These services will be provided with an understanding and respect for the culture and values of each individual family.

**Family Court Programming:**

The Family Court Project grant awarded to the Southern Indiana Family Court Project is available to each of the three counties in an undivided amount according to the request and particular needs of the services.

**ADR Facilitation & Mediation:**

Facilitation and Mediation are currently being utilized in CHINS, termination of parental rights, and disputed child custody and parenting time cases in Martin, Orange and Crawford Counties.

42 cases have been received for mediation services and/or complex case management services in Martin, Orange and Crawford Counties in 2009.

Services are available to the parties upon the request of any party or by Order of the Court.

**Families Served:**

**2007 – 40 Families Served**

**2008 – 55 Families Served**

**2009 – 42 Families Served**